

# WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS\* FOR WISCONSIN BAY AREA COUNTIES

January 2004



State of Wisconsin  
Department of Workforce Development

## Bay Area Unemployment Rates Edge Up During December

December's seasonally unadjusted unemployment rate in the Wisconsin Bay Area followed statewide trends for the month and increased by 0.3 of a percentage point. The rate climbed from 5.0 percent to 5.3 percent. Only two of the counties in the region registered decreases in their monthly unemployment rates. They were Florence County which was down 0.2 of a percentage point to 7.1 percent and Menominee County which declined 0.4 of a percentage point to 8.8 percent. Sheboygan County had the lowest unadjusted rate in the region at 3.9 percent and was unchanged from November. Menominee had the highest rate in the Bay Area.

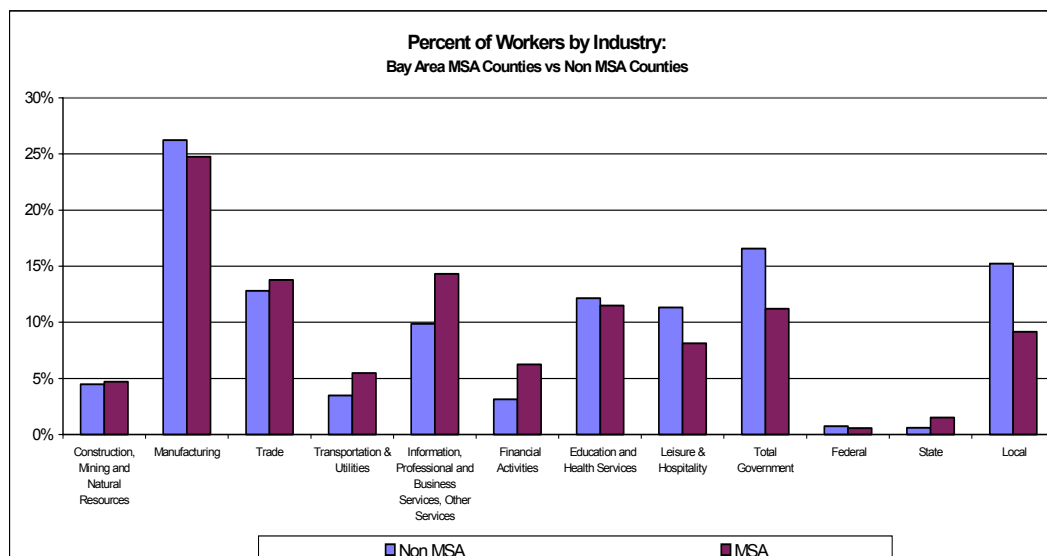
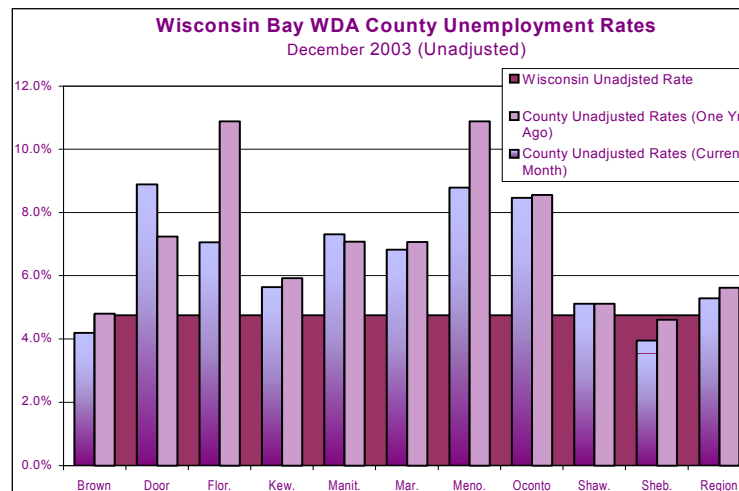
The increase between November and December was slightly higher than normal for the region. Normally the rate remains unchanged between November and December, but then increases during January and February. Although the rate did increase in December, the positive side is that the rate was down from one year ago in seven of the area's ten counties, and overall, the region was down 0.3 of a percentage point from last December.

During the month, the number of workers in the labor force declined by 1,600 to 347,400. At the same time the number estimated to be employed declined by 2,400, increasing the number of unemployed workers in the labor force. The area continues to send mixed signals of economic growth with a relatively high level of unemployment. Yet there has been continued growth in both the labor force size and the number of employed over the last twelve months. The number of employed has increased by 10,000 over the last year, while the number entering the labor force increased 9,400.

The Wisconsin Bay Area is made up of ten counties in Northeastern Wisconsin. Two of those counties have been designated as Metropolitan Statistical Area's by the federal government. This is based on population and labor force data. The two counties are Brown County and Sheboygan County. Next year, Oconto and Kewaunee Counties will become part of the Green Bay MSA. This is primarily due to economic and commuting patterns between within these counties.

Currently the Green Bay and Sheboygan MSA's make up about 67 percent of the employment within the ten county area. The chart at the left compares the percent of employment by industry between the two MSA counties and the remaining non-MSA counties. Some of the differences occur in the information, professional and business services which

(Continued on page 2)



has a higher percentage of workers in the MSA counties. On the other hand there seems to be a higher percentage of local government workers in the non MSA counties. This is due to the way casino employment is counted. Since the casinos owned by tribal government, they are counted as government employment rather than services.

4.9 percent, up 0.4 of a percentage point. This was 0.79 of a percentage point below last year. The rate for the Sheboygan MSA, was 4.7 percent, up from 4.3 percent and 0.7 of a percentage point below December 2002. The nation's rate was 5.7 percent. The rate for Wisconsin was 5.2 percent.

For additional labor market statistics contact our website at <http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/lmi>.

### Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

The seasonally adjusted rate for the Green Bay MSA was

Wisconsin Bay Workforce Development Area												
December 2003	Brown	Door	Flor.	Kew.	Manit.	Marinette	Meno.	Oconto	Shaw.	Sheb.	Bay Area	WI
Civilian Labor Force*	146,800	16,700	2,000	10,800	44,000	22,600	2,400	16,200	20,600	65,400	347,400	3,068,600
Employed	140,600	15,200	1,800	10,200	40,800	21,100	2,200	14,800	19,500	62,800	329,100	2,922,600
Unemployed	6,200	1,500	100	600	3,200	1,500	200	1,400	1,100	2,600	18,400	146,000
Unemployment rate(%)	4.2%	8.9%	7.1%	5.6%	7.3%	6.8%	8.8%	8.5%	5.1%	3.9%	5.3%	4.8%
Seasonally Adj. Rate (%)	4.9%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.7%	-	5.2%
Total Nonfarm	150,300	13,300	1,300	6,700	36,000	20,300	2,100	9,400	12,600	63,100	315,100	2,785,800
Total Private	132,900	11,500	900	5,600	31,500	18,000	100	7,300	9,900	56,600	274,300	2,368,000
Goods Producing	35,100	2,900	300	2,300	13,000	6,800	*	2,800	3,000	27,700	94,000	623,900
Service Producing	115,200	10,300	1,000	4,400	23,000	13,500	2,100	6,500	9,600	35,400	221,000	2,161,900
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	7,600	900	100	500	1,300	700	*	600	600	2,400	14,500	115,600
Manufacturing	27,500	2,000	300	1,800	11,700	6,100	*	2,300	2,400	25,300	79,500	508,300
Trade	21,800	1,700	100	800	4,300	3,100	100	1,000	2,000	7,600	42,400	446,500
Transportation & Utilities	10,500	100	40	500	1,600	700	*	300	300	1,200	15,200	327,600
Financial Activities	11,100	600	40	300	1,000	600	*	200	400	2,200	16,500	159,200
Education and Health Services	18,000	1,500	100	500	4,700	2,800	*	1,100	1,600	6,500	36,900	371,500
Leisure & Hospitality	13,600	3,300	200	700	2,900	1,800	*	1,200	1,400	3,700	28,800	232,200
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Sv	22,800	1,400	100	500	3,900	2,300	*	700	1,100	7,700	40,500	960,700
Total Government	17,400	1,800	400	1,100	4,500	2,200	2,000	2,100	2,700	6,500	40,700	417,800
Federal	1,000	100	20	100	200	100	*	100	100	200	1,900	29,100
State	2,600	100	10	0	200	200	*	0	100	600	3,800	100,300
Local	13,800	1,600	300	1,000	4,100	1,900	2,000	1,900	2,500	5,700	35,000	288,400
Change from one month ago November 2003												
Civilian Labor Force*	-300	-300	0	-100	-700	-100	0	-100	-100	100	-1,600	-4,100
Employed	-600	-400	0	-100	-900	-200	0	-300	-100	100	-2,400	-12,800
Unemployed	200	200	0	0	100	100	0	100	100	0	900	8,700
Unemployment rate(%)	0.2%	1.1%	-0.2%	0.3%	0.4%	0.5%	-0.4%	0.9%	0.5%	0.0%	0.3%	0.3%
Seasonally Adj. Rate (%)	0.4%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.4%	-	0.2%
Total Nonfarm	-500	-300	-30	0	-700	-200	10	-100	0	0	-1,900	-9,800
Total Private	-300	-400	-20	-100	-700	-200	0	-100	0	-100	-2,000	-8,800
Goods Producing	-800	0	-20	0	-600	-200		-100	0	-100	-1,900	-9,000
Service Producing	300	-400	-10	0	-100	100	10	0	0	100	0	-800
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	-500	0	-10	0	-400	-100		-100	0	-200	-1,300	-8,500
Manufacturing	-300	100	0	0	-200	-200		-40	-10	100	-580	-500
Trade	100	0	0	-10	0	0	0	0	40	0	100	3,000
Transportation & Utilities	100	0	0	10	0	0		0	0	0	80	2,100
Financial Activities	200	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	210	300
Education and Health Services	100	0	0	-10	0	0		20	0	0	100	-700
Leisure & Hospitality	-200	-400	0	-20	0	-100		-50	-30	0	-750	-300
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Sv	200	0	0	-10	0	0		0	0	0	160	-2,000
Total Government	-200	100	-10	50	0	0	10	-10	10	100	70	-1,000
Federal	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	800
State	-100	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	-110	-1,800
Local	-100	100	-10	50	0	0	10	-10	10	100	180	0
Change from one year ago December 2002												
Civilian Labor Force*	5,000	1,000	200	300	300	700	100	100	400	1,400	9,400	63,800
Employed	5,600	700	200	300	200	700	100	100	400	1,700	10,000	76,700
Unemployed	-700	300	-100	0	100	0	0	0	0	-400	-700	-12,900
Unemployment rate(%)	-0.6%	1.7%	-3.8%	-0.3%	0.2%	-0.2%	-2.1%	0.0%	-0.7%	-0.7%	-0.3%	-0.5%
Seasonally Adj. Rate (%)	-0.7%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-0.7%	-	-0.5%
Total Nonfarm	1,900	200	100	0	-400	0	100	-200	-100	200	1,800	-900
Total Private	2,300	200	100	0	-400	100	0	-100	100	400	2,700	6,900
Goods Producing	100	-100	0	-100	-500	0		-300	200	200	-500	-20,100
Service Producing	1,800	300	100	100	100	0	100	0	-300	0	2,300	19,200
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	-200	0	0	0	-200	0		0	0	-100	-400	-6,500
Manufacturing	300	-200	0	-100	-400	0		-300	100	300	-100	-13,600
Trade	-900	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	100	100	-600	8,200
Transportation & Utilities	700	0	0	0	100	0		0	0	-100	700	4,200
Financial Activities	500	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	600	5,800
Education and Health Services	900	0	0	-100	100	0		0	100	200	1,200	10,700
Leisure & Hospitality	1,100	300	0	100	-100	100		100	-100	-100	1,300	700
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Sv	-100	0	0	0	100	0		0	-100	100	0	19,200
Total Government	-400	0	0	0	-100	-100	100	-100	-300	-200	-1,000	-7,800
Federal	-100	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	-100	-600
State	-300	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	-100	-400	-2,500
Local	0	0	0	0	-100	-100	100	-100	-200	-100	-400	-4,700

\* Includes participants residing in area. \*\* Includes employment with employers located in area. Estimates are NOT seasonally adjusted. Current month estimates are preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. Calculations based on unrounded numbers. N.W.S. data is benchmarked to 3/2002.

Look for the most current Labor Market Information at: <http://www.DWD.STATE.WI.US/LMI>

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